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UNITED STATES  
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION  
NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE  
P. O. BOX 14100  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114

January 23, 1976

James L. Liverman, Director  
Division of Biomedical and  
Environmental Research, HQ

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, BIKINI

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to me from Oscar de Brum, District Administrator of the Marshall Islands with, in turn, an enclosed memorandum to Mr. de Brum from his representative at Bikini. Mr. de Brum requests that the people resident at Bikini be included in Dr. Conard's annual surveys. The next such survey is presently scheduled for mid-April, 1976. In view of the pending Bikini lawsuit and of recent allegations and misunderstandings regarding Dr. Conard's Marshall Islands activities, I believe that this request merits careful staff attention.

As set forth in my memorandum to you of October 1, 1975, Subject: Brookhaven Program at Bikini, we have for some time had to deal with a pervasive misunderstanding of the purpose and reasons which underly the medical program. From the November 21 memorandum, Acting Distad Rep. to District Administrator (enclosure), it appears that this misunderstanding clearly persists. Note that the writer refers to "periodical checkup" and "medical examinations" as the only means of preventing hazards to health, among those resident at Bikini. He also attributes to Dr. Kotrady a statement regarding the "necessity to visit Bikini".

I read the fourth paragraph of Bima Akeke's memorandum to Distad de Brum to say that the people at Bikini (as distinguished from the people of Bikini) are unanimous in their request for medical examinations. From personal observation, I am aware that these people are:

- 1 - apprehensive about possible radiation effects due to their residence at Bikini;

and



*Roger Ray's Files*

James L. Liverman

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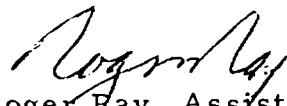
- 2 - badly in need of general medical care, apart entirely from any real or imagined radiation exposure.

In the past, wherever the Brookhaven medical team has visited it has, on a purely humanitarian basis, attempted to look after the general condition of health of the population - including even those who have had no exposure whatsoever. Should this humanitarian service again be extended to the Bikini people, I recommend that it be made clear to the District Administrator and through him to the counsel for the people of Bikini and the Bikini people themselves, that the program is just that: a voluntary humanitarian service which is being provided at the request of the concerned individuals. We should also take this opportunity to explain the distinction between medical examinations and bio-assay procedures.

Dr. Conard informs me that he would be willing to extend his Spring 1976 visit to include a "sick call" visit to Bikini provided he is invited to do so by the people themselves. I strongly recommend that every effort be made to do so, subject of course, to concurrence of the Office of General Counsel.

NV is prepared to support this activity with existing resources and to assist with the accompanying information program.

A copy of my interim reply to Mr. de Brum is enclosed. I will coordinate a subsequent reply with your staff.

  
Roger Ray, Assistant Manager  
for Environment & Safety

Enclosures:

1. Ltr., Distad de Brum/Ray,  
dtd 1-14-76, w/encl.
2. Ltr., Ray/Distad de Brum  
dtd 1-22-76

# 3

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
Office of the District Administrator  
Marshall District

In reply refer to

January 14, 1976

Mr. Roger Ray  
Assistant Manager  
Environment and Safety  
USERDA  
Las Vegas, Nevada

RE: Bikini People


Dear Mr. Roger Ray:

I am enclosing a letter which I recently received from my representative on Bikini. You will note that it is reported to me that some of the people are upset because Dr. Conard is not going to visit them this year to complete his usual examination.

By a copy of this letter, to the attorney for the Kili people, I am requesting Dr. Conard be allowed to conduct his unusual examinations for those who desire it. This would require your authorization and Dr. Conard's consent, of course.

I would appreciate any assistance you can offer for the people.

Sincerely yours,

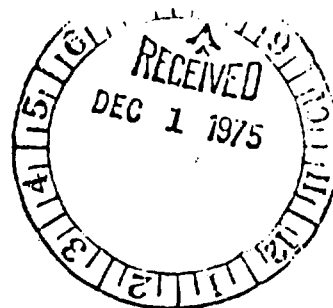
  
Oscar de Brum  
District Administrator  
Marshall Islands District

Enclosure:

cc: George Allen, Marshalls  
District Attorney, Marshalls  
File

AM/ES  
OCC  
F.  
AMA  
AMISSE  
AM P & B  
OCC

#3



November 21, 1975

To : District Administrator, Marshalls  
From : Acting Distad Rep. Bikini  
Subject : Atomic Energy Commission Medical Team Suspended  
to Conduct Physical Examinations for Bikini  
Residents

This is to make inquiries to your office concerning certain matters that should be cleared with Office of Atomic Energy Commission, U.S.A

During my radio-conference with Dr. Gudrady Konrad, AEC Doctor on LCU, he indicated or stated that Bikini residents will not included this trip, pending the case filed by Killi residents in Honolulu.

This information was relayed to Killi-Bikinian residing on Bikini at present and their reactions to this matter is presented to your office.

All Resettlement families including Trust Territory Government Employee from other islands or atolls request your office and the Trust Territory government to make a formal request to Atomic Energy Commission to continue medical examinations for residents of Bikini Atoll.

We feel that like Rongelap and Utrik, we should be included because we are residing in an area that was contaminated by radiation and that's the only mean to prevent hazardous to our health. This was confirmed by former AEC doctors, that periodical checkup would be made to residents.

According to Dr. Gudrady Konrad before leaving Kwajalein to Rongelap and Utrik this month, a formal request is needed from your office to Atomic Energy Commission. He also stressed that he agrees with the necessity to visit Bikini and he, himself, would also talk to his superiors regarding this matter. However, due to the case file in Honolulu, only solution would be a request from Trust Territory Government for the AEC to continue on their periodical examinations.

Your assistance on this matter highly appreciated.

*Bima Akeko*

Bima Akeko

Administrative Assist. Bikini